

People sometimes say to me that they can't imagine the Patrick Troughton Doctor spanking anyone. I don't agree, because I don't see him as so totally feckless. I think of him as someone who is both a big and a small person. He sees things on a large scale but he also has a kind of childish set of horizons, partly for the benefit of his companions. I'm thinking of bits like in 'Tomb of the Cybermen' when Victoria foolishly gets into the Cyber-recharging chamber, and he tells her she'll have to be more careful in future: he doesn't simply comfort her, there is a concerned sternness there as well, speaking to her as an adult to a child. That could easily extend to a spanking : something that is both (from the companion's point of view) a fearful punishment and (in the larger scheme of things) something that won't harm her in the long term.

There's one other issue I have to address before we can embark on this Spanking Adventure, and it concerns Victorias undergarments. It matters because that's what we'll see when the Doctor or Jamie lifts her skirt to spank her.

I think it's reasonable to assume that she starts out wearing knee-length bloomers like those worn by Leela in 'The Talons of Weng-Chiang'. That's what a lady of her period would wear under her crinoline, so that is what Jamie gets to spank in 'Evil of the Daleks'. The trouble starts in 'Tomb' when she changes into a shorter dress with the hemline above the knee. The Doctor tells Jamie to show her where she can get some more practical garments, so there has been some direction about a choice of outerwear, but what about the associated underwear? The shorter skirt means she can't be wearing bloomers any more, because we would see them below the hemline. So what *does* she wear?

The easy answer is, whatever Deborah Watling was wearing at the time the story was made. Modern panties, presumably! (I don't think we actually see in this story, or indeed ever?) But within the fiction the problem is the steep learning curve we attribute to her in the short term process of changing from period to modern costume. It's not too difficult with outerwear, but we're expecting a bigger conceptual leap from Victorian bloomers to twentieth century panties, because the modern garments are such a totally different shape from the underwear she's used to. Young Victorian children wore dresses not unlike the one she chooses, I think, but AFAIK there was no garment in existence remotely like a pair of panties. Picture the scene: having realized that she can't use her accustomed bloomers, she finds some strange and probably multicolored triangular items in the panty drawer and has to work out for herself what they are. Or, alternatively, Jamie gives her a detailed explanation, drawn no doubt from his studious observation of Polly... (No, I don't believe it either!)

Of course, I'm thinking far too carefully about something the makers of 'Doctor Who' never meant for anyone to think about at all, but it put a check on my imagination. I guess some of you guys would rather she wore no underpants at all, giving her even more reason to be embarrassed about the shortness of her skirt (and making the Doctor's comparison with Jamie even more pertinent, if it's true what we hear about the Scots and the kilt). But for my purposes that's out: IMO it is not

appropriate for the additional pain and humiliation of a barebottom spanking to be inflicted just because Victoria didn't know what panties were when she saw them. (Now, it would be different if she had deliberately \*chosen\* not to wear them despite knowing what they are: then it would be nemesis!) Of course there may be other reasons for her bottom to be bared, as we shall see...

So we pick up the story near the end of Part 1: as I said, Victoria has foolishly got into the revitalizing sarcophagus, been trapped by Kaftan and rescued by the Doctor. He comforts her, then motions to Kaftan and Viner to leave the room.

'Now, Victoria, this is going to hurt me more than it hurts you.' He turns a chair to face away from the control panels.

Kaftan has not quite gone when she hears this. Loud and clear she says, 'Doctor, I should like to have the administering of the girl's punishment. She needs a mother's loving discipline which' (a slight pause pregnant with irony) 'you cannot give her.'

The Doctor politely declines the offer, and turns his attention back to Victoria. 'What did she mean?' asks Victoria with a sour look. 'She's not my mother.'

'She means that you deserve a spanking,' says the Doctor bluntly. Victoria's eyes widen in alarm and her unease with Kaftan deepens into dislike. '... which you do,' he continues. 'Thank you for your offer, Kaftan, but I'm sure I can deal with Victoria effectively by myself. Even without the, ah, ultimate embellishment you have in mind.' There is no time for Victoria to feel mystified by these words: in an instant the Doctor has sat down on the chair and turned her over his knee. Her flower-patterned dress shows up pretty and feminine against the shabby check of his pants. And then he grasps the hem and begins to pull it upward.

Two bright spots of color appear on Victoria's cheeks, as the skirt goes up, revealing her fleshy thighs. She gasps in horror: she had been shy of showing even her knees in the short skirt, and now... She begins to sob as she lies there helpless, her bottom protected only by her full white panties with their decorative frill of broderie anglaise at the lower edge. The Doctor takes a deep breath and begins his melancholy duty. Victoria's bottom bounces under each slap, and her sobbing rises to wet tears splashing onto the metallic floor of the revitalizing chamber.

After ten slaps, the Doctor thinks he's got the message across. He pulls her dress back into place and releases her from his lap. And now we cut back to the TV dialogue, but with a whole new meaning. 'I didn't like that very much, Doctor,' says Victoria, smoothing out her dress, and he makes his retort that she'll have to be more careful. And off they go to see how Jamie is getting on, with Victoria rubbing her bottom and trying to avoid the look she gets from Kaftan as they leave the room.

All this explains the tension between Victoria and Kaftan later in the story, and sets up for the scene where Victoria wakes up from being drugged while the Doctor and the archeologists are down in the tombs. I have always thought there was something a little odd about the way Kaftan talks to Victoria there: she says they cannot allow 'a little girl' to interfere with their plans, but thankfully Victoria is not at all what I

would call a little girl! I read this as Kaftan deliberately talking down to Victoria, treating her as more juvenile than she might, which gives an interesting connotation to her threat to take 'drastic steps' if Victoria doesn't shut up. In the televised version it is no doubt supposed to mean that she will shoot Victoria, but even as the line is played it sounds odd: as if Kaftan is having trouble dealing with Victoria and doesn't actually know \*what\* to threaten, just so long as it has the desired effect of shutting the girl up. No prizes for guessing what it implies in my version, however!

So Victoria is panicking as the Cybermat wriggles out of her handbag, and Kaftan is trying to silence her. Then Kaftan's patience snaps: it's time for some drastic action! 'It seems that at last I must be a mother to you,' says Kaftan sternly, lays her pistol on the table and turns Victoria over her knee. Victoria kicks her legs and squeals. From her prone position she can see the Cybermat on the floor across the control chamber, but Kaftan is giving her even more to panic about: Victoria half-expected to feel her skirt being pulled up, but now Kaftan is taking down her panties too!

The cleft of Victoria's bottom begins to peek over the descending waistband. Deftly Kaftan draws the elastic up and over, and the girl's ample buttocks pop out, jiggling with the scissor motion of her legs. Partly from modesty and partly for self-protection, Victoria throws her right hand back to cover her bare bottom, but Kaftan seizes her wrist and pulls it away. Kaftan raises her hand and brings it down with an explosive crack, followed immediately by an earsplitting yelp from Victoria. Across the room, the noise attracts the Cybermat's attention, and through her tears Victoria watches as it speeds across the floor. Kaftan lands a second bottom-wobbling spank on target, then breaks off as the Cybermat leaps onto her shoulder. She leaps to her feet, depositing Victoria unceremoniously on the floor.

The story can now continue its televised course: Kaftan faints, and then Victoria grabs the gun and shoots the Cybermat. Only in this version she has to do it hobbled with her frilly white panties round her knees, and unceremoniously pulls them up before running to fetch Captain Hopper...